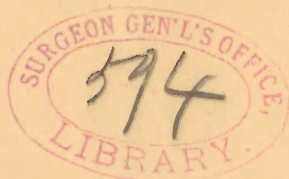
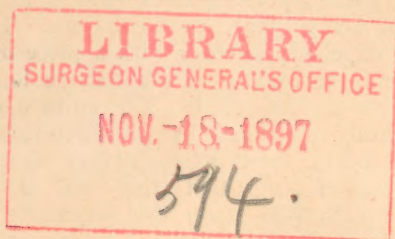


SHURLY (B.R.)

Measles Complicated
by laryngeal diphtheria.



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MEASLES
COMPLICATED BY LARYNGEAL DIPHTHERIA.
INTUBATION. RECOVERY.

By BURT RUSSELL SHURLY, M. D.,
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THE comparatively rare occurrence of authenticated cases of laryngeal diphtheria complicating measles, and the exceedingly grave prognosis of this condition, have prompted me to report the following result:

A boy four years and eight months old was seen by me, in consultation with Dr. F. N. Henry and Dr. Toepel, December 17, 1896. The following history was then presented: The child exhibited the usual prodromal symptoms of measles. Acute coryza developed ten days ago. Exposure occurred ten or twelve days previous. There was a typical mottled rash four days after onset. The catarrhal symptoms had been greatly exaggerated. The cervical glands were enlarged. Examination of the pharynx revealed nothing more than an acute pharyngitis. Four days after the eruption appeared croup became manifest, and thirty-six hours later all the attending phenomena of a laryngeal stenosis—labored breathing, retraction of the chest wall, restlessness, and cyanosis—developed in a marked degree. Fifteen hundred units of Parke, Davis, & Co.'s antidiphtheritic serum were injected by

Dr. Henry, and I performed intubation, a three to four years' tube being placed in the larynx. This was immediately expelled, together with a piece of thick gray membrane three fourths of an inch in length. Reinsertion gave perfect relief. The culture and exudate were carefully examined by the bacteriologist of the board of health and Klebs-Löffler bacilli reported present, determining that this was a diphtheritic membrane engrafted upon the laryngitis of measles. Forty-eight hours after tubage a temperature of 105.4° developed, attended with increased bronchial irritation. No consolidated areas were found, however, and the fever gradually subsided. The tube was removed on the fourth day, ninety-two hours after operation, and considerable dysphonia promptly returned. This responded rapidly, however, to continuous steam inhalation, and the patient made a perfect recovery.

In referring to the literature of measles, I am able to find but few authenticated cases with recovery. The complication is exceedingly grave.

